

## Message Text

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50 45

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 CPR-01 SCA-01 SCS-03 PPT-01

CU-02 OC-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SP-02

CCO-00 IO-13 /062 W

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R 071122Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9838

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN

SUBJECT: JORDAN RIVER BRIDGE CROSSINGS.

REF: (A) TAIPEI 7089, (B) TEL AVIV 1981

1 THIS MESSAGE DEFINES THE CATEGORIES OF PERSONS WHO WISH TO CROSS THE KING HUSSEIN (ALLENBY) BRIDGE TO THE WEST BANK AND THE VARIOUS PROCEDURES THAT ARE TO BE FOLLOWED FOR EACH CATEGORY TO CROSS THE BRIDGE ARE DESCRIBED.

2. OFFICIALS - ALL PERSONS TRAVELLING ON OFFICIAL OR DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS ARE INCLUDED IN THIS CATEGORY. UPON BEING NOTIFIED OF AN OFFICIAL TRAVELER, EMBASSY AMMAN SENDS A DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO THE PROTOCOL OFFICE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR THE INTERESTED PERSON(S) TO CROSS THE BRIDGE. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THEN FORWARDS THE REQUEST TO THE HEAD OF LIAISON TRAINING AND ADMINISTRATION BRANCH OF THE JORDAN ARMED FORCES WHICH CABLES OR WRITES THE BRIDGE UNIT WITH

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THE REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR THE CROSSING. THE FOREIGN

MINISTRY REQUIRES TEN REPEAT TEN WORKING DAYS  
NOTIFICATION TO ARRANGE SUCH A BRIDGE CROSSING (NOTE:  
THIS PROCEDURE IS USED AS WELL FOR RELATIVES OF OFFICIALS  
TRAVELLING WITH THEM, EVEN THOUGH THE RELATIVE MAY NOT  
HAVE OFFICIAL OR DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS).

3. IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE EMBASSY'S PROCESSING OF BRIDGE  
CROSSING REQUESTS, ALL POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE  
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN INITIAL CABLES: FULL NAME (NO  
INITIALS), DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH, DATE AND PLACE WHERE  
PASSPORT WAS ISSUED AND INDICATION WHICH PASSPORT TO BE  
USED FOR TRAVEL IN ARAB COUNTRIES, TYPE OF PASSPORT  
(DIPLOMATIC OR OFFICIAL), NUMBER OF PASSPORT, CURRENT  
ASSIGNMENT, DATE AND HOUR OF CROSSING IN EACH DIRECTION,  
ANY REQUESTS FOR TRANSPORTATION AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS  
SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN CABLE.

4. TOURISTS - TOURISTS ARE PERSONS TRAVELLING ON REGULAR  
PASSPORTS. TOURISTS MAY OBTAIN A BRIDGE CROSSING PER-  
MIT THROUGH A TRAVEL AGENCY IN AMMAN AFTER THEIR  
ARRIVAL IN JORDAN. THEY MAY ALSO GO PERSONALLY TO THE  
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR IN AMMAN FOR A BRIDGE CROSSING  
PERMIT. TOURISTS MUST REMAIN IN AMMAN 48 HOURS BEFORE  
OBTAINING THE PERMIT. TOURISTS ORIGINATING TRAVEL IN  
JORDAN MAY TRAVEL FROM EAST BANK TO WEST BANK ONE WAY  
OR ROUND TRIP. (TOURISTS ORIGINATING TRAVEL FROM  
ISRAEL OR THE WEST BANK MAY EXIT THROUGH JORDAN BUT  
NOT ROUND TRIP TO ISRAEL OR WEST BANK.) THE BRIDGE  
IS OPEN FROM 0800 HOURS UNTIL 1400 HOURS AND IS  
CLOSED EVERY SATURDAY AND ON IMPORTANT ISRAELI AND  
JORDANIAN HOLIDAYS.

IN ADDITION THOSE WITH TOURIST PASSPORTS MAY HAVE  
THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL CLASSIFICATION AND PROCEDURES:

A. RESIDENT NON JORDANIAN (PRIVATE AMERICAN  
CITIZENS) ALSO INCLUDES PERSONS BORN IN ARAB COUNTRIES  
WHO ARE NOW AMERICAN CITIZENS. INDIVIDUALS IN THIS  
CATEGORY MUST GET THEIR BRIDGE CROSSING PERMISSION  
FROM THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.

B. JOURNALISTS MUST OBTAIN THEIR PERMITS AT THE  
PRESS CENTER WHICH IS A PART OF THE MINISTRY OF  
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INFORMATION. THE PRESS CENTER IS LOCATED IN THE  
INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL IN AMMAN.

C. STUDENTS ARE DEFINED AS PERSONS CROSSING THE  
BRIDGE SOLELY FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES. THEY MUST OBTAIN  
PERMISSION TO CROSS FROM THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND  
INFORMATION. IF THEY ARE TO BE ENGAGED IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
STUDIES THEY MUST ALSO HAVE THE APPROVAL OF THE MINISTRY  
OF ANTIQUITIES.

5. CURRENT PRACTICE IS FOR ISRAELI AUTHORITIES NOT  
RPT NOT TO PLACE ENTRY/DEPARTURE STAMPS IN UNITED STATES  
PASSPORTS IF REQUESTED BY THE TRAVELER. HOWEVER,  
DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORT HOLDERS OBTAIN A  
SECOND PASSPORT, VALID FOR TRAVEL IN ISRAEL ONLY.  
IF PASSPORTS ARE STAMPED BY THE ISRAELIS IT MUST BE  
CANCELLED OR LIMITED TO ISRAEL ONLY AND A NEW PASSPORT  
ISSUED. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT TRAVELERS PLANNING TO  
ENTER JORDAN FROM THE WEST BANK GET JORDANIAN VISAS  
BEFORE ENTERING ISRAEL.

6. CABLES REQUESTING BRIDGE CROSSING SHOULD BE  
CLASSIFIED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

7. REQUEST DEPARTMENT PASS TO OTHER POSTS AS REQUIRED.  
SUDDARTH

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